

## **Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 8, 2011**

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. This information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. It is our intent to offer this e-newsletter weekly when the state legislature is in session. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

### **General Overview**

Legislators appear intent on adjourning the session soon. More than 470 floor actions took place in the legislature this week.

### **Budget**

The Governor signed the budget package, as forwarded from the legislature, this week. That package includes:

**S1612:** 2011-2012; general appropriations

**S1613:** capital outlay; 2011-2012

**S1614:** state budget procedures; 2011-2012

**S1615:** state agencies; consolidation

**S1616:** budget reconciliation; revenue; 2011-2012

**S1617:** budget reconciliation; K-12 education; 2011-2012

**S1618:** budget reconciliation; higher education; 2011-2012

**S1619:** budget reconciliation; health; 2011-2012

**S1620:** budget conciliation; welfare; 2011-2012

**S1621:** budget reconciliation; criminal justice; 2011-2012

**S1622:** budget reconciliation; general government; 2011-2012

**S1623:** budget reconciliation; regulation; 2011-2012

**S1624:** budget reconciliation; environment; 2011-2012

Information on these bills, including bill overview, versions and summary/fact sheets are posted on the Arizona State Legislature website and can be found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp?FirstBill=SB1601&LastBill=SB1650>.

(Click on the bill number to view the options.)

The package includes additional cuts to DES (approximately \$50 million) and DHS (approximately \$53 million).

Part of the budget package passed and signed included restoration of transplant coverage. Information is provided on the AHCCCS website link provided here:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.aspx#TransplantRestoration>

A comparison of budgets, as proposed originally by the Governor, by the Senate and the March 31<sup>st</sup> version, can be found at the **JLBC Summary of Budget Proposals** link:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/summary033111proposal.pdf>.

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#### **STATE LEGISLATION:**

The House and Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 11, 2011.

**Bills Passed and Signed this week** (from the Council's SHORT List):

**H2099: Hospice Care; Restoration:** signed by the Governor on 4/6/2011.

**S1043: Nursing Care Administrators; Continuation:** signed by the Governor on 4/6/2011.

**S1248: Hospitals; Dual Licensure; Elimination:** signed by the Governor on 4/7/2011.

**Bills passed and sent to the Governor** (from the Council's SHORT list):

**H2157: DHS: Stroke Care Protocols**

**H2169 Dental Board; Fees**

**H2233: Mobile Dental Facilities**

**S1082: DES; Fingerprinting; Finger Imaging**

**Bills on calendars for next week:**

Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

**S1038** - House Third Reading

**S1175** - House Committee of the Whole

**S1190** – House Committee of the Whole

**S1240** – House consent

**For a complete list and review of *all the bills* tracked this session, see the information provided at the LIST links below.**

**At the end of day 89, 1,350 bills posted and 124 passed, 43 signed; 142 memorials or resolutions posted, 19 passed.** Of the bills posted, several may be of interest to Arizona seniors and are being tracked by the Council and appear on the *Legislative Update* web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking lists does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It does mean that the bill topic is something that is may be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**SHORT LIST** – those bills having to do with health and safety of older adults

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24673&listid=44407&print=true>

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24635&listid=43827&print=true>

**Note: The SHORT LIST and FULL LIST website links** provide you with the current status of the bills being tracked by the Council and are available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ***These lists will continue to be edited and updated as long as the legislative session continues.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the administration or the legislature, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-1318 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 or you may **contact the legislator from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you're interested in committee membership and schedules, you can find that information at the Arizona State Legislature website. Committee links are found at: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp>. Committee agendas and hearing schedules are posted at: <http://www.azleg.gov/CommitteeAgendas.asp>.

If you're interested in learning more about or reviewing the legislative process, see the *Bill Process* link <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf> or *Bill to Law* link <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> at the Arizona State Legislature website.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### ***Federal Shut Down Avoided***

**At this time, Congressional leaders have reached a budget agreement and passed a seven-day, short-term continuing resolution to fund the federal government through Thursday, 4/14/2011 while legislation is drafted.**

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**NOTE:** If you want more information specific to any bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*. Did you know? You can access the latest legislative activities and visit congressional schedules and calendars under *Current Activity* on the Thomas homepage.

**Contact Your Congressional Member!** If you are interested in Congressional actions, bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the **Senate**.

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## **Other News:**

***As part of Older Americans Month***, Senior Centers are being invited to enter a Community Connection Video Game Tournament. More information can be found at: <http://olderamericansmonth.org/>

**Older Americans Month** information and resources can be found at:

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press\\_Room/Observances/2011/OlderAmericans.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Observances/2011/OlderAmericans.aspx)

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**From the U.S. Department of Labor – *Taking the Mystery Out of Retirement Planning – A focus on Women & Retirement***

**Webinar** on Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 1:00 – 2:15 pm EDT

For more information and to register:

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=301567&sessionid=1&key=65A6A95A461C5293DD249BDF5256B72C&sourcepage=register>

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**From the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration -  
Second National Take Back (Prescription Drug) Initiative**

**April 30, 2011 10 am to 2pm**

In communities throughout the nation, public safety and public health organizations are collaborating to collect unwanted or expired prescription drugs for safe disposal.

For more information, go to:

[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html)

To locate a collection site near you, go to:

[https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/NTBI/NTBI-PUB.pub;jsessionid=1B894374BF908DF1250CCE914D5F2A85?\\_flowExecutionKey=cEEFA112F-882C-AC25-A536-063F3B4758BB\\_k782152C8-BB0E-6184-E1A0-D5423258705F](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/NTBI/NTBI-PUB.pub;jsessionid=1B894374BF908DF1250CCE914D5F2A85?_flowExecutionKey=cEEFA112F-882C-AC25-A536-063F3B4758BB_k782152C8-BB0E-6184-E1A0-D5423258705F)

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**Long Term Quality Alliance** report on improving care transitions and reducing avoidable hospitalizations:

<http://www.ltqa.org/wp-content/themes/ltqaMain/custom/images/Innovative-Communities-Report-Final-0216111.pdf>

#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

***National Alliance on Mental Illness – Southeastern Arizona offers***

***FREE Mental Health Support Groups in Bisbee, Sierra Vista, and Douglas.***

*For more information:*

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/SupportGroupFlyer0411.pdf>

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**WHAT: Northern Arizona Gerontology Association *Getting Good at Getting Old- Strategies for Healthy Aging*; 27<sup>th</sup> Rural Conference on Aging**

**WHEN: Friday, April 29, 2011**, 8:30 am to 2:00 pm, Federated Church, 406 W. Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/NAGA2011RegForm.pdf>

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**WHAT: *The Sacred Journey of Caregiving; A Transformational Approach to Life*** presented by **Western Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging** and the **Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter Northern Arizona Region**

**WHEN: May 11, 2011**, 9 am to 3:00 pm, Bullhead City Chamber of Commerce, 1251 Highway 95, Bullhead City, AZ 86429.

*For more information:*

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/ConferenceRegistration.pdf>

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**WHAT: *Hoarding Conference: Opening the Door to Change***

**WHEN: May 17, 2011**, 9 am to 4 pm, Scottsdale Civic Center Library, 3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

*For updated information:*

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/FinalFlyerLR.pdf>

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**WHAT: 2011 Southeastern Arizona Suicide Prevention Conference**  
***Promoting Hope Building a Stronger Community for Armed Forces Members and Their Families***

**WHEN: Monday, May 23, 2011**, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona, 2502 N. Dodge Blvd., Tucson, AZ

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/SaveTheDate052311Brochure.pdf>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please

note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Note: Based on staffing, the *Legislative Update* will be issued biweekly if not weekly until the end of the 50<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session.**

**Have a good weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**